Steps to Check Population Growth

262. SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government propose to deny the facilities to the persons having more children in order to check the population growth; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) and (b) The proposed stand on disincentives is contained in paragraph 12.6.1 of the draft Statement on National Population Policy laid in the Lok Sabha in reply to Starred Question No. 156 on 2nd December, 1996.

The Constitution (Seventy-Ninth Amendment) Bill, 1992, proposes to disqualify persons from being chosen as, or being, a member of either House of Parliament or either House of a State Legislature, on the ground of having more than two children. This disqualification will be prospective in nature.

[English]

Manipal Academy of Higher Education

263. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Karnataka Government had requested the Union Government to withdraw the Deemed University status to the Manipal Academy of Higher Education; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Union Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) and (b) Certain complaints against the Manipal Academy of Higher Education have been received from the Minister for Higher Education, Government of Karnataka. The matter is under examination in consultation with the University Grants Commission. The Institution has also been asked to reply to the various allegations.

Shifting of I.I.A.S., Shimla

264. SHRI JAGMOHAN : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have taken a decision to shift the Indian Institute of Advanced Studies, Shimla, from its present premises;

(b) if so, the details thereof and reasons therefor;

(c) the approximate cost of the proposed relocation;

(d) whether there has been a move to review the decision in the light of opposition from the governing body, possible adverse public reaction and heavy cost involved; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) to (e) The Government in 1982 inter-alia decided that while the Indian Institute of Advanced Study, Shimla, would remain in Shimla, the exact premises where it would be housed may be gone into separately. The above decision has remained unimplemented as alternative sites considered were not found suitable. In May, 1990 it was decided that the Institute may be shifted to an alternative site, offered by the Government of Himachal Pradesh and the entire campus may be transferred to the Ministry of Tourism for being developed as a Tourist Resort by ITDC with the stipulation that the main building would not be used for tourist purposes. This decision, too, could not be implemented as the sites offered by the Government of Himachal Pradesh were either unsuitable or fell short of the Institute's requirements.

The decision to shift the Institute from the Rashtrapati Niwas is, therefore, not a new decision. It is reiteration of the decision taken in 1982. There is a suggestion before the Government to use Rashtrapati Niwas as a Retreat for visiting Heads of State(s) and Heads of Government(s) for conference/discussions in a secluded environment.

A communication from the Chairman of the Governing Body of the Institute seeking review of this decision has been received by the Government.

[Translation]

Darbhanga-Forbisganj Road

265. SHRI SHATRUGHAN PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the scheme to develop Darbhanga-Nirmali Forbisganj Road of Bihar as a National Highway under the Rajiv Package is pending with the Union Government; and

(b) if so, the time by which the Government propose to clear the above scheme ?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

Oral Pulse Polio

266. SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have received reports about casualties during Oral Pulse Polio campaign held recently in the country specially in West Bengal; and

(b) if so, the details and corrective measures taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) Casualties due to administration of Oral Polio Vaccine during Pulse Polio Immunization have not been reported so far. The newspaper report regarding deaths after Pulse Polio Immunisation in a village in West Bengal was investigated by the State Government and was found not to be related to administration of Oral Polio Vaccine.

(b) Does not arise.

Ezhimala Naval Academy

267. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN :
SHRI T. GOVINDAN :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) the extent of work that has been completed on the Naval Academy at Ezhimala;

(b) the quantum of money allocated and spent hitherto on the project so far; and

(c) the steps taken to complete the work during the current year ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) The civil works regarding renovation and addition/alteration of the existing buildings etc. have commenced. The electricity, water, roads and dredging to be provided by the State Government of Kerala is in the final stages of completion.

(b) The approved cost of the project is Rs. 166.94 crores and a sum of Rs. 244.07 lakhs has been spent till date.

(c) Naval Academy Project, Ezhimala is planned to be executed over a period of 8 years from 1995 to 2002.

A.P. School Health Project

268. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Overseas Development Administration has decided to stop assistance to Andhra Pradesh School Health Project because of "non performance" on the part of the State Administration; and

(b) if so, the main reasons for not implementing the project efficiently ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Population Growth in A.P.

269. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Andhra Pradesh has registered a slight drop in fertility rate but has not prevented its population touching eight crores;

(b) if so, whether the present birth rate compounded by the tender age of women at marriage has been the cause of population increase in the State;

(c) if so, whether the present rapid growth of population will have serious implications on socio-economic development;

(d) if so, whether the family planning programme in the State has also not been fully implemented;

(e) if so, whether the Union Government have directed the State Government to fully implement family planning programme and have also decided to allocate more funds for the purpose; and

(f) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) The Total Fertility Rate for Andhra Pradesh has declined from 4.0 in 1981 to 3.0 in 1991 and further declined to 2.7 in 1995, as per data from Sample Registration System. The estimated population for 1996 is 72.16 million.

(b) to (f) The rate of growth of population in Andhra Pradesh is much lower than national average. All States are given funds according to approved pattern of assistance. All States are also advised from time to time to improve their performance.

Expenditure on Celebrations of Republic Day

270. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) the amount spent on the celebrations of Republic Day;

(b) the amount earned on account of sale of tickets, advertisement etc. for the purpose; and

(c) the steps, the Government propose to take to minimise the expenditure on such celebrations ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) Republic Day Celebrations are held all over the country. The arrangements in this regard are made by the concerned Central Ministries/ Departments, State Governments, Union Territory Administrations, Public Sector Undertakings, local bodies and other agencies. As the details of expenditure on various items borne by the concerned agencies, are not collected and exhibited under one head, it is not possible to assess the amount spent on the celebrations of Republic Day.